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Murphy Criticized

To the Editors: In the UNION LEADER you published a detailed story concerning the inability of Senator Maurice Murphy to get, from the State Department, the information he wanted about the Soviet arms build-up in Cuba.

Senator Murphy wrote to the State Department on February 6. He had not received the information he wanted from the State Department by April 12. What did he do? He made a speech on the floor of the Senate in which he publicly complained that he could not get the information he wanted. He did nothing more. He received nothing more.

In contrast to Senator Murphy's experience let me give you my own. I was in Washington on April 12. At 10 a. m. that morning I called up the proper officials in the Central Intelligence Administration, the Department of State and the White House, who had the information I wanted. Within three hours I had all the information I had asked for. The only information which was not made available to me was a confidential report to President Kennedy, which the President had not yet released to the press because he had not had time to read it.

I knew where to go for the information I needed. Everywhere I was treated with the utmost of courtesy and cooperation. Once more I found that a citizen of the United States who needs help can get it from every department in Washington if he knows where to go for help. The department officials will go out of their way to help him.

I never heard of Congressman Bass or Congressman Merrow getting up on the floor of the House of Representatives and whining out complaints against any department in Washington. It is probable that the difference between our congressman and our junior senator is the difference between those who have the competence to serve the people of New Hampshire and those who do not have that competence.

Hancock.

MURRY LEVITT.